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to Germany to learn the secret of safe mining. Lately Germany has sent such commissions to England. The number of fatal accidents in England per 1,000 employed was in 1900, 1.29; for all Prussia, 2.24; for the anthracite region, 3.29 (1899). The greatest hope for improving conditions of safety lies in the increased use of cutting-machines, now little employed. In mines where they are used they have, by lessening the accidents due to "roof falls," reduced the fatalities by one-half.

The conditions outside the mines are described in the last four chapters. The housing of the population is studied in great detail. Of the miners 17 per cent. live in their own houses, 21.1 per cent. in houses belonging to the companies, and 61.9 per cent. in private rented houses. The rentals of company houses, like those in the anthracite region, are lower than the rentals of private houses. No such conditions of shameful overcrowding are reported as are found in the anthracite region. Still the dwellings are very humble. Of 251 representative dwellings it was found that 5 per cent. got along with one room, 57 per cent. with a kitchen and one bedroom, and 25 per cent. with a kitchen and two bedrooms. The picture of the social life is much more pleasant than that in the anthracite communities. State insurance gives certain relief for those who conform with the conditions of the law. But it is complained that the rates are higher than used to be required for keeping up the old *Knapp-schaftskassen*, that the law interferes with *Freizügigkeit*, and hence certain reforms are demanded. The miners maintain various minor organizations for mutual aid, have libraries and reading-rooms, maintain lecture and concert courses, and support *Volksgärten* and other places of resort.

Both books agree in finding in the Slav a valuable industrial agent and in regarding him as by no means hopeless, under proper surroundings, from the point of view of citizenship; in insisting on more efficient and honest inspection of the mines; and in paying tribute to the miners' unions as a means of economic and moral betterment.

GEORGE O. VIRTUE.

WINONA, MINN.

The Slav Invasion and the Mine Workers. By FRANK JULIAN WARNE. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott, 1904. 12mo, pp. 211.

THE material for this interesting book was for the most part collected in the anthracite region during the strikes of 1900 and 1902,

for a series of newspaper articles. The first three chapters review the earlier and happier conditions of the laborer in the region and tell in a graphic manner the story of the coming of the "Slav." The remaining seven chapters tell of the social and industrial changes wrought during the last quarter of a century and the part played by the "Slav invasion" in those changes.

How important that part was in the opinion of the author is indicated by the following statement: "The coming of the Slav into the hard-coal fields was the primary or fundamental cause operating within the anthracite region to produce the strikes of 1900 and 1902. The other forces which had a part in bringing about these industrial disturbances were based upon and were put into operation by this invasion." These men, with their lower standard of living, first crowded the English-speaking workmen out of the southern field—some leaving the industry, others migrating to the northern field—then with their weapon of cheap labor attacked them in their stronghold; not that they compelled a reduction of wages, except indirectly through acquiescing in the "large ton," the "growing car," and in working in places where English-speaking laborers could not support themselves. It was in the northern field that the strike of 1900 originated, as a revolt against intolerable conditions, and it was here the organization of the men began, which soon swept over the whole region. The union was able for the first time to induce the different racial elements to co-operate. It has continued the useful service of holding together these elements to a certain extent, and hence tends to check that "conflict of standards" which has brought evil, not only to the English-speaking mine worker, but to the whole community in a score of ways.

The value of the book lies in the attempt it makes to analyze and interpret the factors that dominate the anthracite communities; but it may be questioned whether, in elaborating the Slav theory, other important factors have not been neglected. The book is a vigorous stimulating piece of work.

G. O. V.

WINONA, MINN.

L'exode rural et le retour aux champs. By ÉMILE VANDERVELDE.
Paris: Félix Alcan, 1903. 8vo, pp. 304.

In this pamphlet on the "Migrations from the Country and the Return to the Fields," the Belgian socialist Vandervelde first dis-